

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 17

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 86

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 17—Relative to foreign trucks in California.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 14, 1997.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 17, Murray. Mexican and other foreign trucks in California.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress to maintain the existing restrictions on trucks from Mexico and other foreign nations entering California and continue efforts to assure full compliance by the owners and drivers of those trucks with all highway safety, environmental, and drug enforcement laws.

WHEREAS, A recent study by the U.S. Government Accounting Office (GAO) found that Mexican trucks entering the United States often fail to meet basic federal safety standards; and

WHEREAS, Investigators from the GAO found that Mexican trucks entering the United States may have serious safety violations, including broken suspension systems, substandard tires, inoperable brakes, overweight loads, and unsecured and hazardous cargo; and

WHEREAS, Mexico has no nationwide automated system for monitoring the safety history or violation records of Mexican companies and drivers, and it is therefore difficult for California law enforcement personnel to obtain essential safety data; and

WHEREAS, If trucks from Mexico are allowed unrestricted access to the state, verification of foreign insurance policies and access to the foreign judicial system will be very difficult when accidents occur, possibly resulting in the delay of settlements and payments to those involved; and

WHEREAS, Large quantities of illegal drugs are smuggled into California from foreign nations, including Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has chosen not to implement provisions of the North American Free Trade Agreement that called for unlimited access by Mexican trucks to the territory of the State of California; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature memorializes the President and Congress of the United States to maintain the existing restrictions on trucks from Mexico and other foreign nations entering California and continue efforts to assure full compliance by the owners and drivers of those trucks with all highway safety, environmental, and drug enforcement laws; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

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